FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 DECEMBER 1985

Syrian, Iranian Support for Libya

Syria warns those who are thinking of attacking Libya that they will face the resources of Libya and Syria at the same time, Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam declared after arriving in Tripoli to deliver a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. In his statement, reported by SANA, Khaddam also stressed that Syria has decided to confront the "conspiracy" against Libya, adding that he would inform the Libyan leadership that Syria places "all its resources" at Libya's disposal. In a related development, the Syrian and Iranian foreign ministers emphasized the need to support Libya against the U.S. "propaganda onslaught" and Egyptian "military provocations," Tehran radio disclosed in a report on their meeting in the Iranian capital.

Jaruzelski Tour

Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski arrived in Algiers 2 December, Algiers radio reported. A joint Libyan-Polish statement, which was issued on the Polish leader's earlier visit to Libya and was carried by Tripoli radio, announced the signing of four agreements designed to strengthen cooperation in legal matters, social security, broadcasting, and in economic, industrial, and technical fields. The statement also noted that the countries agreed to "coordinate" their foreign policies. Citing "informed sources" in Tunis, KUNA reported that Jaruzelski will inform Maghreb leaders that Libya "will not be alone" if the United States contemplates carrying out "any operations" against it. The sources added that Jaruzelski carries detailed reports with him on U.S. plans to change the "political scene" in a number of Maghreb countries.

Iran-Iraq War

A General Staff communique carried by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio announced that Iraqi planes "accurately pounded" targets on Khark Island 2 December. The Iranian petroleum minister said in an interview with Tehran radio that the attacks on Khark Island "do not affect" oil exports, adding that Iranian oil production and sales are even "somewhat higher than before."

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Karmal, Keshtmand Send Anniversary Note to Laos

LD031017 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0500 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Kabul, December 2, BAKHTAR — The friendly relations and cooperation between the people of Afghanistan and Lao People's Democratic Republic will further grow to the interest of the peoples of the two countries.

This is stated in the message of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Politburo member of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers, addressed to Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) and chairman of the Council of Ministers and Souphanouvong, president and chairman of Supreme People's Assembly of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (LPDR) on the occasion of the tenth foundation anniversary of the LPDR.

The message expresses the good wishes of the PDPA CC Revolutionary Council and the Government of the DRA for the prosperity of the Laotian people.

The message also expressed confidence for the further growth of friendly relations between the parties, states and the peoples of the two countries for the interest of the people of Laos and ensuring peace and international security.

Message Received From Poland's Jaruzelski, Messner

LD030959 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Kabul, December 2, BAKHTAR — "The mutual elation and all-sided cooperation between the peoples of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) and the Polish People's Republic (PPR) will further strengthen in the interest of the peoples of the two countries."

This was stated in an acknowledgement message received in response to the congratulatory message of Babrak Karmal, general Secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA and Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and chair :an of the Council of Ministers sent to Wojciech Jaruzelski, the first secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP) on his election as president of the State Council of the PPR and Zbigniew Messner as the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the PPR.

In the message the Polish leaders express their wish for the success of the Afghan people, under the leadership of the PDPA, in their struggle to preserve the achievements of the April Revolution.

Agreement Signed for Soviet-Built School

GF301208 Kabul in English to South Asia 0900 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] An agreement on construction of a high school through the (?gratis aid) of the Soviet Union was signed on Thursday by Abdul Samad Qayyumi, the minister of education of the DRA, and Aleksandr Karpov, the economic counselor of the Embassy of the Soviet Union in Kabul. On the basis of this agreement, the Soviet side will help the Ministry of Education in the construction of a high school in 1986 and will provide the educational facilities and technical equipment, medical and physical education facilities, and the needed administrative equipment for the new high school, which will be built in Kabul City.

40 'Armed Persons' Surrender in Kabul Province

LD030759 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Kabul, December [date indistinct] BAKHTAR — Forty armed persons [words indistinct] surrendered themselves to the state authorities of Mir Bacheh Kowt district of Kabul Province.

The armed persons availing the amnesty decree of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council and the decisions of the high historic Jirga (Grand National Assembly) of the DRA joined to the revolutionary government. [sentence as received]

The returnees formerly linked with the criminal band of Jamiyat promised the revolutionary state to defend the gains of April Revolution and taking [words indistinct].

Nepalese Foreign Secretary Pradhan Arrives in Dhaka

BK030759 Dhaka BSS in English 0625 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 3 BSS — Nepalese Foreign Secretary Biswa Pradhan arrived here yesterday to attend the SAARC foreign secretary's meeting which takes place tomorrow.

The foreign ministers of seven SAARC countries will meet here Thursday to prepare for the two-day summit of the heads of state and government beginning on Saturday next.

AFP Interviews Foreign Minister on SAARC Summit

HK030416 Hong Kong AFP in English 0401 GMT 3 Dec 85

[By Roushan Zaman]

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 3 (AFP) — In a rare show of common political will, leaders of seven South Asian nations meet here this weekend to give a formal go-ahead for a regional cooperation forum after decades of dissension.

The seven — India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives — share a common cultural heritage.

But their recent history has been characterised by frequent discord on racial, religious and political issues, analysts pointed out.

Officials in Bangladesh — a staunch early champion of the idea of regional cooperation and host of the first ever summit — however noted with optimism a gradual change in the atmosphere towards better understanding in the region.

The success of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), "will depend on political will, which I think, is there," Bangladesh Foreign Minister Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in an interview.

"SAARC will be what we want to make of it," he said, adding: "We foresee a completely different picture of South Asia in the coming decades."

Mr. Chowdhury singled out poverty as a priority target for SAARC. "It is the unacceptable quality of life that pervades the region (on which) we all can really cooperate," he said.

The Bangladesh foreign minister said he saw "tremendous possibilities in cooperating with each other in the region rather than fighting. And it is here that the future of the region lies."

The SAARC countries already have an action programme for cooperation in nine fields: agriculture, rural development, meteorology, telecommunications, scientific and technical cooperation, health, transport and civil aviation, arts, sports and culture.

Mr. Chowdhury said that there was vast potential for expanding the scope of cooperation into such fields as education, prevention of terrorism and the struggle against narcotics trafficking.

C. M. Shafi Sami, the chief summit cordinator who is also in charge of the South Asian desk at the Bangladesh Foreign Ministry, said that SAARC was not meant to "end up in seminars and workshops."

"We want to take up practical and operational projects through structured regional cooperation," he said.

He admitted there were still "perceptual differences" and some "divergence of opinions" but said: "We want to draw strength from the factors which unite us. We want to create a virtuous circle as against a vicious circle. That is how we see it."

The promoters of SAARC, in a declaration adopted in 1983 during its formative days, formed a policy of keeping at bay all bilateral irritants and potential bones of contention, to create a favourable atmosphere.

India, the group's most powerful member, has bilateral problems with several of its neighbours. India and Pakistan have fought three wars, and the two have an ongoing arms race, analysts pointed out.

With Bangladesh, India has a long-standing dispute over the sharing of the waters of the Ganges River and on New Delhi's proposal to build a barbed-wire fence on their border to stop further alleged immigration into its troubled Assam State. Dhaka holds there is no illegal immigration.

India and Sri Lanka have been at odds over the Tamil issue, while Nepal and Bhutan are wary of being annexed into India's sphere of influence, diplomatic sources say.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has said recently that his government is trying to mend fences with its neighbours to promote regional peace and stability.

He described SAARC as a "major step forward in the direction of a new pattern of relationships in South Asia based on equality, trust and mutual benefit."

President Urges Armed Forces To Remain Vigilant

BK021041 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The president, Giani Zail Singh, has asked the defense forces to remain vigilant and fully prepared to meet any eventuality in view of the acquisition of sophisticated arms by some neighboring countries. He said though India is committed to a policy of peace and friendship with all, it cannot afford to remain complacent in the matter of defense. He was addressing the army officers and jawans [soldiers] in Gangtok this morning. He said the world is passing through a dangerous situaiton as destructive arms and ammunition are being piled by several countries. He hoped that the defense personnel will continue to display their excellent performance as they did in times of crisis. The president has since arrived in Patna.

Bhagat Criticizes Pakistan's Handling of Sikh Case

BK020911 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The six Canadian Sikhs involved in the attack on two senior Indian diplomats at Dera Sahib Gurdwara complex in Lahore on the 25th of last month have been rearrested by the Pakistan authorities at India's insistence. Giving this information in the Lok Sabha today, the external affairs minister said that the assailants, who were arrested 48 hours after the incident, were immediately released on bail furnished by a Pakistani national who was the main instigator of the attack on Indian diplomats. They were charged only with minor offenses. Mr B. R. Bhagat regretted that no action was taken against these foreign nationals for their anti-Indian activities, including their provocative speeches calling for the assasination of the Indian leaders. He said the chain of events leads to the unfortunate conclusion that Pakistan authorities have treated the Canadian Sikh extremists in a lenient manner and seem to be proceeding against them at a leisurely pace.

Replying to a calling attention motion moved by Mr Kamal Nath, Congress-I, and others, Mr Bhagat said that India will be firm with Pakistan in dealing with such situations but at the same time follow a policy of friendship and cooperation.

Regarding the training of extremist elements at military type of schools run by mercenaries in the United States and Canada, Mr Bhagat said the matter has been taken up with these governments. A U.S. Senate subcommittee is also holding hearing on such schools.

Gandhi Airport Remarks on PRC, Japan Trip, More

BK020344 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said that his visit to Vietnam and Japan has paved the way for a new era of bilateral cooperation not only in the economic sphere but also in the political field. Talking to newsmen at the Delhi airport last night after his return from a 5-day visit to these two countries, Mr Gandhi said that he had wide-ranging discussions with the leaders of Japan and Vietnam. He said he is looking forward to greater cooperation from these countries in the coming years. There is a lot of room for Indo-Japanese cooperation, particularly in trade and scientific and technological fields.

When asked whether there is any contradiction in India's decision to get foreign technology and the process of indigenization, the prime minister said it is not so. He explained the reasons for going in for such technology. He said our industry has not been able to adapt itself to the requirements of quality standards and production level that could make Indian products competitive in international market. He called upon our industry to rise to the occasion and become competitive.

Answering a question on Pakistan's nuclear designs, the prime minister observed that there is no need to fear, as adequate security precautions were being taken. A correspondent drew his attention to the invitation extended to the Pakistani president, General Ziaul Haq, to the inauguration of the first breeder reactor at Kalpakkam. Mr Rajiv Gandhi said that the 16th of this month suited Gen Zia to visit India. The function had been planned much earlier and it is just a coincidence. Asked whether he would accept an invitation to visit a Pakistani nuclear plant, the prime minister replied he would do so if it is meant for peaceful purposes.

Asked whether the Sino-Indian border dispute was discussed with the Japanese leaders, the prime minister said that India explained its position in this regard. Mr Gandhi clarified that improvement of relations with China must go together. We cannot leave out areas like border disputes and improve trade relations. There is no question of not having trade with China.

Replying to another question, the prime minister made it clear that India has not modified its stand on the demand by the United States for the inclusion of services in the next round of GATT negotiations. He said India's stand was made clear during his visit to the United States in June. India is willing to talk on any subject, but the country's basic interests will be kept in mind.

The prime minister was received at the airport by his cabinet colleagues, members of parliament, diplomats, and top civil and military officials.

Earlier, speaking to newsmen on board the plane on his way back home, Mr Gandhi said steps will be taken to improve quality of industrial products and raise productivity. Referring to the sporadic shooting incidents in Punjab, the prime minister said that the Barnala government will have to face the situation squarely. He said he is not happy at the indiscriminate release of persons arrested. This is not just the case of individuals. But what is more damaging is the softening of the atmosphere toward terrorism, he added.

Gandhi on Technology Import, Punjab Prisoners

BK021615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpt] The prime minister has said that action will be taken against those industrialists who have imported technology but

failed to develop it within a reasonable period. Addressing the Executive Committee of the Congress-I parliamentary party in New Delhi today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi called for restraint on import of technology for the manufacture of consumer goods. Briefing newsmen, the parliamentary party secretary, Mr J.K. Jain, said that the prime minister was in favor of increasing the volume of trade with different countries, particularly the nonaligned countries. The prime minister said small-scale industries should be developed so that they could be pushed into large-scale industries in future. Mr Gandhi said backward areas should be given more facilities for building infrastructure for industries.

Referring to Punjab, the prime minister said he is not happy with indiscriminate release of terrorists taken into custody earlier in the state.

AFP: Gandhi Blames Akali Dal for Punjab Violence

HK021232 Hong Kong Afp in English 1139 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 2 (AFP) — Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi has blamed the Akali Dal state governments "softening attitude" to Sikh extremists for continuing violence in Punjab, the *TIMES OF INDIA* reported today.

Three people, including two policemen were shot dead in incidents in the Punjab Friday and Saturday while Mr Gandhi was away on a five-day tour of Vietnam and Japan.

"We have not been happy over the indiscriminate release of those arrested," the newspaper cited Mr. Gandhi as saying on his return from Japan Sunday.

He added that it was this "softening attitude towards terrorism, the atmosphere created by it that was dangerous".

A section of India's 16 million Sikhs have been campaigning for greater political autonomy in Punjab. The campaign was called off by the moderates after they signed a peace accord with the federal government in July.

Surjit Singh Barnala, leader of the moderate Akali Dal Party formed a government in Punjab following elections in the state in September and secured the relase of thousands of Sikh youths held under the National Security Act.

Most of the youths belogned to the militant All India Sikh Students Federation, earlier news reports had said.

Barnala Rejects Criticism

HK030610 Hong Kong AFP in English 0539 GMT 5 Dec 85

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Dec 3 [AFP) — Punjab Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala has firmly rejected Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's criticism of his move to free thousands of imprisoned Sikh youths, press reports here said today.

"I know my responsibility as chief minister and my government is doing whatever is necessary. Law and order is a state subject," T*HE INDIAN EXPRESS* quoted Mr. Barnala as saying.

"I do not have to do it on his (Mr. Gandhi's) asking," the Punjab official reportedly said.

The *TIMES OF INDIA* yesterday quoted Mr. Gandhi as criticising what he called the "indiscriminate release" of arrested pro-autonomy Sikh militants which represented a "softening attitude towards terrorism."

But Mr. Barnala, head of the Punjab government mounted by the moderate Sikh party Akali Dal after state elections in September, was quoted as denying that the release of the Sikhs was indiscriminate.

He said that the release were made on the basis of recommendations made by a special committee, according to the *TRIBUNE* newspaper published in the Punjab capital of Chandigarh.

MR. Gandhi's Congress-I Party is widely believed to have paved the way for the Akali Dal to come to power in the Punjab by fielding low-profile candidates during the state elections.

Mr. Barnala quickly made good on a campaign promise to secure the release of thousands of Sikh youths held under the National Security Act, most of them members of the militant All India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF).

They were arrested during a violent Sikh campaign for greater autonomy in the Punjab. Mr. Gandhi signed a peace accord in July with moderate Sikh leader Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, who was later assassinated.

Mr. Barnala said that militants trained in Pakistan were crossing into the punjab through the neighbouring state of Rajasthan, the *TRIBUNE* reported.

The border between the Punjab and Pakistan was ordered sealed before the state elections and is now effectively under army control, according to press reports.

The AISSF, meanwhile, has called a two-day school strike beginning today aimed at educational institutions in Amritsar, Gurdspur, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Faridkot and Hoshiarpur.

In Amritsar, the Sikh holy city, militants have called for a ban on bus traffic between 7 p.m. and 4 a.m. until January 31, *THE PATRIOT* newspaper reported.

The federal government has extended a ban on foreigners entering Punjab, imposed in June 1984, until February 2, 1986, official sources said. They added that this would not apply to accredited news correspondents.

The officials said that New Delhi was ready to help the Punjab government maintain law and order, but this was up to the state administration.

Intelligence sources said that agents of the Central Bureau of Intelligence, normally confined to purely domestic matters, would be deployed at the Indo-Pakistani border in a bid to curb infiltrations.

Further Barnala Comment

BK021610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has said that law and order in the state will be maintained at all costs. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today, he said the government is aware of its responsibility and necessary steps have already been taken to deal with the situation created by the violent incidents during the last few days. In reply to a question, Mr Barnala said only those persons who were found innocent by the [word indistinct] committee have been released by the government. Mr Barnala said the police have been given a free hand in dealing with the activities of those indulging in violence and antisocial activities.

Punjab Restrictions Set on Vehicular Movement

BK030941 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] The Punjab revenue minister, Mr Major Singh Uboke, has described as unfortunate the spurt in terrorist activities in the state. Talking to newsmen to Phagwara, he appealed to the misguided youths to come back to the national mainstream.

Mr Uboke said the recent release of several arrested persons was made on the recommendations of the [word indistinct] committee.

The state government has imposed restrictions on vehicular movements in different parts of the state. In Amritsar, riding of motorcylces, scooters, and mopeds at night has been banned. Movement of all buses has been restricted during the night. In Hoshiarpur District, motorcycle plying is banned at night. However, scooters and mopeds will be allowed. All the orders will remain in force till the 31st of this month.

Meanwhile, all colleges in Amritsar and some other districts have been ordered to close today and tomorrow. This follows the call for the 2-day strike given by the All India Sikh Students Federation in support of their eight demands.

The ban on the entry of foreigners into Punjab has been further extended by 2 months, to 2 February next year. This has been stated in a notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs in New Delhi yesterday. The ban was first imposed in June last year. The ban, however, does not apply to press correspondents acredited to the Government of India.

Suspected Sikh Militants Kill Pro-Hindu Party Worker

NC021743 Paris AFP in English 1728 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Dec 2 (AFP) — Two suspected Sikh militant separatists today shot dead a pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) worker in Punjab state and escaped with money he had just withdrawn from a bank, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said.

The news agency said the victim, Ram Verma, was attacked after he had withdrawn money from a bank in Ludhiana district. The unidentified assailants escaped with a bag containing 5,000 rupees (nearly 420 dollars).

With today's shooting, at least six people including two policemen and an alleged separatist have been killed in four separate shootings in the northern state since Friday night.

Bhopal Anniversary Strike Brings City to Standstill

HK031050 Hong Kong AFP in English 1035 GMT 3 Dec 85

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] Bohpal, India, Dec 3 (AFP) — Black flags fluttered mournfully over Bhopal today as a general strike brought city life to a standstill to mark the first anniversary of the world's worst industrial disaster, witnesses and police said.

The flags were most thickly clustered in the vicinity of the Union Carbide pesticide plant here, from which toxic gas leaked on December 2 and 3 last year, killing more than 2,500 persons and afflicting 300,000 others.

Transport — including scooter taxis, the most common form of conveyance here — ground to a halt, businesses pulled down their shutters and schools and government offices closed as a mark of respect for those who died in last year's tragedy.

"The strike appears to be total," said A. R. Pawar, the police chief in this central Indian city of 700,000 inhabitants. He said there had been no outbreaks of violence, but added that police were still on the alert.

The strike was called by local associations and opposition political parties — the right-wing Baratiya Janata Party, the Communist Party of India, and the Communist Party of India-Marxist.

Meanwhile, residents went to temples, churches and mosques to observe the anniversary.

The day began with the State of Madhya Pradesh's Chief Minister, Motilal Vohra, offering prayers in a Christian church, a Moslem mosque, a Hindu temple and a Sikh temple, his office said.

Hymns from the Hindu priest, bells tolling in the churches, the voice of the muezzin calling Muslims to prayer from the mosque and recitations from the Sikh holy book filled the air, witnesses said.

Slogans on walls in the city called for a boycott of Union Carbide's best-known product, Ever Ready batteries, and declared "no Bhopal, no Hiroshima" — referring to the Japanese city Atom-bombed in World War II.

Armed policemen were still to be seen guarding the U.S. multinational's plant, to which at least 5,000 people marched yesterday, carrying placards and flaming torches and shouting slogans.

The demonstrators burned 2,500 effigies of Union Carbide president Warren Anderson — one for each of the fatalities in the disaster.

Curious survivors of the disaster, including women and children from the shanty town adjacent to the now disused factory, watched students, writers and intellectuals condemn the mishap that caused them to flee their homes one year ago.

Demonstrators also organized a street play criticising multi-nationals, and paraded a hydra-like, 13-headed effigy of Mr Anderson.

Further marches and several meetings are expected today, a police spokesman said.

In New Delhi, most newspapers carried reports of yesterday's demonstrations, as well as editorials ruefully complaining that one year on nothing much had been done for the victims.

The widely circulated *INDIAN EXPRESS* said that rehabilitation of nearly 60,000 people had been slow and inadequate.

Foreign Secretary Leaves for Dhaka Meeting

BK021633 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The foreign secretary, Niaz A. Naik, left Islamabad this evening for Dhaka to attend the secretary-level meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation beginning there on Wednesday. Talking to the Radio Pakistan's representative at the airport, he said the secretary-level meeting will consider the reports of the technical committees relating to nine agreed fields. The secretaries will then report to the foreign ministers on the progress so far made in the implementation of the integrated plan of action.

Curfew Imposed in Karachi Areas After Unrest

BK030951 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate of Karachi South says a group of people not only observed Shia day yesterday morning but also set up road blocks and threw stones at private and public vehicles in protest against the murder of seven people in Hasan Ali Wah. The press note says that the miscreants tried to set fire to some shops and gasoline pumps. They tried to break open a gun shop with the intent of acquiring arms for illegal use. The press note adds that the law enforcement agency used tear gas to disperse the mob and arrested about 53 miscreants. The press note also says that the situation worsened after evening prayers, when some misreants threatened to set fire to property in areas where people did not take part in the demonstration staged in the morning.

The press note says the district administration imposed a curfew from 2200[1700 GMT]last night until further notice in the police station areas of Chakiwara, Kalakot, and (Baghradi) to protect the lives and property of peaceful citizens and to act against the culprits. The people have been asked to cooperate with the administration to restore law and order. The curfew will not apply to civil, police, or military officers on duty.

Noorani Comments on Kashmir Border Issue

BK021654 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpt] The National Assembly disposed of a number of privilege and adjournment motions today. Speaking on an adjournment motion sought to be moved by Sheikh Rashid Ahmad, the minister of state for foreign affairs, Zain Noorani, expressed the hope that the Siachen Glacier issue will soon be resolved with India peacefully and bilaterally. He said this issue was also raised during the meeting between the president and Indian prime minister in Oman. The motion was dropped after this assurance by the minister of state for foreign affairs.

After the statement of the minister of state for foreign affairs, Zain Noorani, that there was no incident of firing in the Punch sector on the night of 11 October, the movers of identical adjournment motions — Sahabzada Mohammad Ahmed, Allama Abdul Mustafa Alazhari, and Shah Dural Haq Qadri — did not press for their motions. However, taking these members into confidence, he said that the Indian Army fired on (Jimber) sector on that day, resulting in the death of one citizen. He said the Pakistan Army immediately returned the fire. A protest was lodged with the UN Commission on Kashmir against this unprovoked firing.

The speaker also ruled an adjournment motion out of order which Mohammad Afar Khan Sahib sought to move for discussion on the closing of 264 mosques in India by the Indian Government. Mr Zain Noorani said he also shares the sentiments of the mover. The Indian Muslims have been taking up this issue with the Indian Government. However, he said, this matter is not in the jurisdiction of the Government of Pakistan.

Karachi on Clashes, Casualties in Afghanistan

BK020358 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] According to reports received from Afghanistan, a large number of people have been either killed or wounded in the clashes following Soviet-Karmal forces' action against the mujahidin in the Qandahar region. According to a report, the mujahidin shot down several helicopters. They killed more than (?60) Soviet-Karmal soldiers in the Hari area alone after the 23d of last month. The Soviet-Karmal forces also carried out an attack on a mujahidin base in Musa Qaleh in Helmand Province.

According to another report, the mujahidin attacked two military posts near Kabul during the 3d week of last month and caused heavy damage to the Soviet-Karmal forces. The mujahidin also attacked a military camp near Shahrak area in Ghowr Province and inflicted heavy losses.

Khomeyni Receives Relatives of POW's, Martyrs
LD021308 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Shi'ite and Sunni families of martyrs, those missing in action, and POW's, coming from Zabol, Iranshahr, Khash and Chah Bahar, in the Province of Baluchestan va Sistan as well as a number of Sunni families of martyrs, coming from the Province of Kordestan, accompanied by deputies from the various Kordestan towns, including a number of families of martyrs, those missing in action, and POW's coming from Damghan, were this morning received by Imam Khomeyni at Jamaran at the end of Unity Week.

Khameme'i Visits Hamadan Province Airbase
LD021749 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, this morning arrived at Nozeh Airbase. He is visiting military bases there and will meet with the people of Hamadan Province.

President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i in an interview with a Central News Unit correspondent on his arrival this morning, said that the reason for his visit is to meet with the staunch and selfless people of that town, saying:

We will try, during this visit, to meet with the people of Hamadan and to eradicate the problems of Hamadan Province through discussions with officials of the province.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, noting the participation of 10 divisions of Basij forces in an exercise to be held in Hamadan, said:

These exercises are the ultimate symbols of the presence of the people in the defense of the revolution. The most notable scene of the revolution is the imposed war. Our nation believes wholeheartedly that so long as this issue is not resolved other problems cannot be dealt with. Therefore, the war is at the top of our list of priorities.

The president added:

The aggression of the enemy threatens the integrity of the revolution, which we must defend.

Khomeye'i concluded:

Although these exercises are not real actions but are symbolic expressions, nevertheless they exhibit the readiness of the people to be present in the toughest and hardest (?arenas) of the revolution.

Our correspondent reports the continuation of Khamene'i's visit:

In the Name of God, on the last day of the Mobilization Week of the Oppressed, 10 divisions of the selfless Hamadan Basij forces paraded in front of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i, the president and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, to show the combat power of the Islamic warriors in the fight against the intrigues of Eastern and Western global arrogance and eradication of any plots in the world.

According to our correspondent, President Khamene'i, who led a delegation of high-ranking officials including Colonel Seddiq, the commander of the Air Force; Mohsen Reza'i, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps; Rahmani, the supervisor of the Mobilization of the Oppressed, and a number of Hamadan and Tehran deputies to the Majlis, arrived at Martyr Nozeh airbase at 0800 today. They were welcomed by Hamadan's representative of the imam and the Friday imam of Hamadan, the governor general, and a number of officials and families of martyrs from this province.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i later participated in a gathering of the personnel of Martyr Nozhzeh Airbase and noted the fighting and resisting spirit of Iranians and explained the present status of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the world, saying:

Our military personnel, who today makeup an important stratum of this nation, sacrifice their lives and gain glory. Today, the bravery of our armed forces shines in the eyes of our people and those of the friends and well-wishers of the Islamic Republic abroad.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, continuing with his speech delivered to the personnel of Martyr Nozeh Airbase of Hamadan, said:

the personnel of this base have gained the greatest glory. Thanks to your selfless efforts, the Islamic Republic has attained remarkable victories. You must know that maintaining a victorious achievement is more difficult than merely carrying it out, since the enemies of this revolution do not want such glory to continue. They cannot tolerate such glory. You must make efforts to preserve these victories.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i inspected the production of the self-reliance jihad equipment of Martyr Nozeh Airbase.

According to the same report: the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, accompanied by his entourage, arrived at Hamadan Airport to attend a parade by 10 divisions of Basij units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Hamadan Province. First, the commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Hamadan Province reproted the organization of the 10 divisions of the popular forces in that province. Then, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Musavi, the representative of the Imam and the Friday Imam of Hamadan, welcomed the president and his entourage and delivered a speech about the resisting and steadfast people of Hamadan Province. After a message from Hamadan province deputies about the formation of 10 divisions of popular forces was read.

Our correspondent further reports that Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i delivered a detailed speech about various

issues of the Islamic Revolution and the importance of unity between various strate of society, stating:

I am proud to be able to speak to the dear Basij members of Hamadan Province present here in their 10-division-strong parade as a colleague and brother and as a person with similar syumpathies.

He added:

The Basij force is one of our nation's proud institutions, established following the decree of the imam which began this enthusiastic movement in our ummah.

In another part of his speech reviewing the characteristics of the Islamic Revolution and the important role of the imam of the ummah in this divine movement, Khamene'i noted the unity of the people to achieve the lofty ideals of the Islamic Revolution as one of the most prominent features of the revolution.

In the same connection, he added:

If you are not united and allow discord in your midst for minor differences, or if Shias and Sunnis from some town or the other line up against each other, how can our dear imam strike hard blows at the body of superpowers and utter: The United States is helpless. We cannot stand firm in any of the battlefields without unity and solidarity in the ranks of our people. It was you, the people, who solved the problems of the revolution, saving us from repeated and dangerous plots and intrigues. You must know that the global exploiters, headed by the criminal United States, are shaking with fear of you, the nation of the Islamic Revolution. They are trying not to show their fright, but your unity will be your path to victory. Those who inadvertently or otherwise assist in the disruption of this unity are helping the global exploiters.

In another part of his speech, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Khamene'i said:

Today we are witnessing the dispatch of the Hezbollah Ummah in the forming of combat unit of the Karbala wayfarers. The enemy is now decided by our plans.

Returns to Tehran

LD031212 Tehran IRNA in English 0945 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 3, IRNA — President and head of the Supreme Defence Council 'Ali Khamene'i, addressing a meeting of the government officials of Hamadan Province, in Hamadan, Monday afternoon, said that the Islamic republic of Iran enjoyed a good status in the world.

The president, who was on a one-day tour of the province, further added that progressive Arab countries despite wishes of the reactionary governments of the region, supported the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Referring to inclination of Arab countries of the Persian Gullf to expand their relations with Iran, the president said that such moves indicated strength and sound position of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He also referred to the extradition of the hijacked small Iranian plane by the United Arab Emirates Government, as a positive step.

On the Iraqi-imposed war, the head of the Supreme Defence Council said that Iran should be ready for an operation with the minimal human loss and greater success. At present, he added, all armed forces were in a position to achieve great victorie.

The president returned to Tehran Monday night.

Kuwaiti Expulsion of 31 Iranian Workers Reported

LD021857 Tehran IRNA in English 1400 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Bushehr, Bushehr Prov., Dec. 2, IRNA — Another 31 Iranian Muslim workers were expelled from Kuwait over the past few days. They were deported after being held in detention where they suffered physical and mental torture at the hands of Kuwaiti security officials.

The group whose properties were confiscated by the Kuwaiti Government arrived by boats and were settled at the deportees camp of the city.

Reportage on Activities of Syrian Prime Minister

Tours Tehran With Officials

LD022238 Tehran IRNA in English 1643 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 2, IRNA — Visiting Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm accompanied by Iran's minister of Ershad Islami (Islamic Guidance) Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Khatami on Monday visited Sadabad Palaces in Tehran which were turned into museums after the culmination of the Islamic Revolution in Iran.

During the tour the Syrian premier inspected priceless carpets in the 'Green Museum' as well as military equipment of the past Iranian kings. He also toured the military museums where relics and equipment of previous monarchical dynasties are housed.

The Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Isam al-Na'ib also accompanied Mr. Al-Kasm.

Meets Iraqi Revolutionary Figure

LD022246 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Hojjat ol-Eslam Sayyid Mohammad Baqer Hakim, the spokesman of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, this afternoon met and conferred with the Syrian prime minister who is visiting Tehran. After this meeting, in a short interview with reporters, Hakim described his discussions with the Syrian prime minister as very useful and said: This meeting was very satisfactory and during that meeting we talked for 1 hour about the aggression of the Iraqi regime against Iran, the

situation in the Persian Gulf, the activities of Muslim revolutionaries in Iraq, and various regional issues.

Syrina Foreign Minister Meets With Velayati

LD021307 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] The Syrian minister of foreign affairs, who arrived in Tehran yesterday accompanying the Syrian prime minister, met Foreign Minister Velayati this morning. In the course of the meeting, the Syrian minister of foreign affairs, having paid tribute to the Islamic Revolution and its role in awakening the oppressed world nations, referred to bilateral relations and the two countries' anti-Zionist struggle. He then stressed Syria's solidarity with the Islamic Revolution and its coordination with the Islamic Republic in all aspects of the latter's stands, particularly the Iraqi imposed war against Iran and the decision by his country's leaders to support the Islamic Republic until the fall of the Iraqi regime. He then noted rumors and practices by arrogant media to create doubt and suspicion in relations between the two countries as a futile attempt aimed at misleading nations' struggles and create despondency among them.

Afterward Velayati made some remarks. He recalled the principles governing bilateral relations in the fight against Zionism and the pivotal nature of such a principle, calling for all countries to join together, including the Lebanese anti-Zionist forces, around such axis. Citing imperialist provocations and those of the Egyptian regime against Libya, he urged support for the latter's stands against global arrogance. Emphasizing the need to continue the war until the aggressor is punished, Velayati expressed his opposition to forming any reactionary axis or negotiating with the Zionist regime.

During the meeting, it was emphasized that the two delegations should make common efforts in supporting Libya against the propaganda onslaught launched by U.S. imperialism and the measures being taken by the Egyptian regime, which resorted to military provocations to cover up the escalation and burgeoning of the movement launched by Muslim Egyptians.

Bulgarian Minister Ends Visit, Praises Talks

LD291425 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Nov 85

[Excerpt] Mr Ognyan Doynov, the Bulgarian minister of machine building and a member of the Politburo, who came to Iran at the head of a high-ranking delegation, left Tehran this morning and was seen off by Mr Behzad Nabavi, the heavy industries minister. Before leaving Tehran, the Bulgarian minister was interviewed at Mehrabad Airport by a Central News Unit correspondent. On the outcome of his trip to the Islamic Republic of Iran, he said: Our trip to Iran was very useful, and this visit will assist the expansion of economic relations between Iran and Bulgaria by increasing the volume of exports and imports, of technological transfers, and by joint industrial activities, because there are many common points.

The Bulgarian minister of machine building added: A new point which was raised in the course of our talks during this visit and which was solved positively was the issue of increasing Bulgaria's nonoil imports from Iran. Thanks to the efforts made by both countries, success was achieved and coordination will pave the way for signing the protocol of the two countries' joint commission.

Mr Nabavi was also interviewed by our correspondent on the outcome of the Bulgarian delegation's trip to Iran.

Libya Congratulated on Formation of Guard Corps

LD030825 Tehran IRNA in English 0808 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 3, IRNA — Iran's Minister of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust in a message on the occasion of the formation of similar forces in Libya, Monday (?announced) [word indistinct] readiness to put its experiences at the disposal of Libya in this respect.

This message, addressed to Brigadier General Abu Bakr Jabir Yunis, Commander of Libya's Armed Forces, expressed the hope that the newly established forces could play an effective role in safeguarding achievements of Libyan revolution.

Meanwhile, in a meeting with Iran's ambassador to Libya Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Kazem Khansari, General Yunis reiterated Libya's firm support for the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Iraqi-imposed war.

During the meeting, the Iranian ambassador handed over Rafiqdust's message of congratulations on the occasion of the formation of the Libyan Revolution's Guards Corps.

The Libyan general said that his country has constantly supported the Islamic Revolution of Iran which toppled the heavily armed former regime and shattered U.S. domination in the region.

He also [word indistinct] outstanding role of the Islamic Revolution of Iran in awakening the oppressed peoples, especially Muslims.

In reply, Khansari stressed Iran's support for Libya and said that recent vicious provocations of the U.S. and the puppet regime ruling over Egypt, were doomed.

Besharati Conveys Message to Pakistan's Ziaul Haq

LD011203 Tehran IRNA in English 1028 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Islamabad, Dec. 1, IRNA — Iran's visiting Acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati met President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan and conveyed a message of President 'Ali Khaneme'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the meeting Besharati said that as an independent, Muslim and non-aligned country, Iran seeks to establish friendly relations with Third World countries, specially its neighbours.

He added that long-standing relations between Iran and Pakistan and common cultural and political interests, paved the way for the strengthening and expansion of mutual relations.

Conveying his greetings to President Khaneme'i and other Iranian officials, General Ziaul Haq reiterated strengthening of friendly and fraternal ties between the two countries. He said that Pakistan was ready to expand these relations in various dimensions.

He thanked President Khaneme'i for his friendly message and wished success for the Iranian nation and government in achieving their goals.

Besharati, heading a Foreign Ministry delegation, arrived here Saturday [30 November] To convey President Khamene'i's message to President Ziaul Haq.

Petroleum Minister on Exports, Production Ceiling

LD030003 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Interview with Petroleum Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh by unidentified correspondent, in Tehran on 2 December — recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr. Aqazadeh, please tell us about Itan's present oil production and exports.
[Answer] In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Our production and sales are good, thank God. It is even somewhat higher than before. We have no problems regarding production and sales. The attacks on Khark do not affect our exports. We have plans for diversifying our loading docks in the next few months. God willing, Khark will be less important than in the past, or it will be ineffective. [as heard]

[Question] When you accepted the post of petroleum minister, you greatly stressed the need to diversify outlets for oil exports. What practical steps have you taken in this respect?
[Answer] We have started three fundamental projects in this respect. One is the pipeline to Jask and there are two other projects that are being implemented. One of those projects is near completion. They will prevent our oil exports from having to be confined to a single terminal. As the esteemed president has also pointed out, due to the diversity of loading terminals that will be constructed, the level of loading could reach a ceiling of 13 million barrels. I hope that within a few months we will have no loading problems.

[Question] When you were speaking in the Majlis, you talked about long-term agreements for the sale of oil. Please tell us what practical steps you have taken in this connection?
[Answer] Since joining the Cabinet, even before I came to the Petroleum Ministry, I have believed that our country could achieve a balance in foreign trade in accordance with the Majlis import-export policies because of our imports from various countries. I believe that those countries that sell us development projects and goods should buy oil in return. After I started at the Petroleum Minsitry, I held talks with various countries on the basis of this policy. Thank God, so far it is so good. Two or three long-term contracts have been signed. We shall continue the discussions that we had with those companies in Geneva and I hope that during the next few months we will be able to have long-term agreements for at least 1 million barrels. I see no difficulties in this respect. In view of the coordination that exists between us, the Foreign Ministry, the Commerce Ministry, and the support of the Cabinet, God willing, we will be successful in this respect.

[Question] According to remarks by various other OPEC oil ministers, it seems that they intend to present some proposals on altering the method of pricing at the next session. What is your view on the pricing method and also on the OPEC production ceiling?
[Answer] Regarding the new pricing formula, if they take away control from the producers, I will not agree with this at all. In my opinion, OPEC should set the prices. In my opinion, as regards the formulas and what is said about them, they leave the pricing to the customers rather than to the producers. Regarding the quotas that you referred to, in my opinion there is no need to increase the quotas at this juncture. If the quotas are increased without holding to the prices that have been set, it would lead to a drop in prices, which would not be in the interests of the region.

[Question] Some countries, namely Iraq, which have laid new pipelines, have striven to increase their oil exports. They will make certain proposals in this respect. What is Iran's view on this matter?
[Answer] At the last two OPEC sessions, Iraq has requested a 500,000 barrel increase in the quota. I have told all OPEC oil ministers in a message that if Iraq's quota is increased, we would produce two extra barrels for every extra barrel given to Iraq. In my opinion, if this increased quota comes about, those countries that have been producing extra should decrease their quota. In no circumstances shall we accept an increase in OPEC's ceiling.

Cabinet Approves Foreign Exchange Allocations

LD011802 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 1 Dec 85

[Text] Today's cabinet meeting debated and approved foreign exchange allocations for various government departments for the year 1364 [March 1985-86], the employment situation and development projects in Kurdish-inhabited areas were discussed, and a committee was assigned to investigate problems in these areas.

The cabinet then reviewed economic relations with Syria and paid tribute to Syria's positive stands in connection with regional issues.

U.S. Company Building Chemical Weapon Plant in Iraq

LD272111 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 27 Nov 85

[Text] The American Allied Signal Company, which is world famous for the production of chemical weapons, at the request of the Ministry of Industries of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime ruling over Iraq is to establish a factory for the production of chemical weapons in the City of Baghdad. The publication *The Road to*

Karbala, while carrying this news item in its latest issue, notes that the activity of this American company shall take place covered under the name of Chemical Powders and Ammonia Production Plants. It is indicated that following the deployment of chemical weapons on part of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime ruling over Iraq against the Islamic combatants, international mass communication media exposed that the regime of Iraq in various cases has used its chemical plants and pesticides plants in order to produce chemical weapons and [word indistinct]

Large-Scale 1 Dec Gulf Naval Maneuvers Reported

LD031113 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] According to an IRNA report, the heroic personnel of the second naval region of Bushehr took part in glorious naval exercises in the coastal waters of the Persian Gulf, and once again demonstrated their strength and fighting capability to safeguard the naval borders of the Islamic Republic, and confronting the conspiracies of world arrogance in the region. According to this report, in these exercises, which were carried out yesterday in the presence of Islamic Republic Navy Commander Captain Malekzadegan, a large number of brave navy personnel, together with a number of missile-launching boats and navy helicopters took part. In some brave and fast operations, they attacked or blockaded predetermined coastal targets in the shortest possible time.

According to the same report, during these exercises a few aircraft of the aggressive Iraqi regime appeared in the sky of the region, but seeing the boats, antiaircraft guns and missile-launching helicopters, they were forced to flee. These exercises were carried out with complete success from yesterday morning until 1700 yesterday.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,307

LD021603 Tehran IRNA in English 1553 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 2, IRNA — More than 15 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and at least seven heavy weaponry positions and observation posts of the enemy were destroyed during artillery battle with Iranian forces in Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts over the past 24 hours, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported here Monday.

In its Communique Number 2307, the Command added that several Iraqi patrol units attempted to infiltrate Iranian positions in Nahr-e Anbar and areas overlooking Mehran at 22:15 hours (18:45 hours GMT) Saturday, and 01:20 and 2:30 hours Sunday (21:50 and 2300 hours GMT Saturday) but were forced to flee sustaining heavy casualties by Iranian artillery fire.

Exchange of fire continued in the western fronts being more intense in Kani-Shaykh and Helaleh on sunday during which the Iranian artillery prevailed over the enemy's, the communique said.

Elsewhere the communique said that parts of Iraqi positions in Piranshahr, Haj Umran, Sardasht and Marivan front were set ablaze and a number of Iraqi troops were killed or wounded Sunday.

In the southern fronts, the Joint Staff reported, Iran's Muslim combatants checked movements of Iraqi motorized and armoured units especially in Fakkeh, Tavoussiyeh, Chazzabeh, Chananeh and Hoseyniyeh over the past 24 hours.

The Joint Staff further said that several Iraqi weaponry positions and observation posts in Zobaydat and Arvand River with all their crew were destroyed by Iran's gendarmerie forces.

Iraq's long-range artillery fire on Abadan, Khuzestan Province damaged a few buildings in the city over the past 24 hours, the communique concluded.

Communique No 2,308

LD031603 Tehran IRNA in English 1545 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 3, IRNA — At least 10 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and three vehicles and several artillery positions of the enemy were destroyed in the western fronts over the past 24 hours as their positions, and concentration centers were shelled by Iran's Muslim combatants, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported here Tuesday in its Communique Number 2308, the command added that artillery fire was exchanged in Mehran, in the western fronts and the Islamic fighters subjected an Iraqi vehicle column comprising of 20 Vehicles around Kharrat-Ha to their artillery fire, inflicting losses on them.

An Iraqi patrol unit attempting to infiltrate Iranian Muslim positions in the area was shelled and forced to flee, reported the Joint Staff.

Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and losses in the northwestern and southern fronts as their bases and concentration centers were shelled, the communique said.

Elsewhere, the communique added that Iran's Gendermerie forces traded artillery fire with Iraqi troops in the southern fronts Monday, inflicting considerable casualties and losses on the Iraqi troops, and silencing their artillery and halting the enemy engineering and combat operations.

Some buildings in Abadan were slightly damaged as the Iraqi forces sporadically shelled Abadan and Khorramshahr Monday.

100 Killed in Ilam Operation

LD031115 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 Dec 85

[Text] A Central News Unit correspondent reports on last night's operation by the combatants of Islam:

In the name of God the compassionate the merciful. O resisting and martyr-nurturing ummah of Iran. During the last hours of

Basij Week, the self-sacrificing basij personnel, those followers of Husayn, peace be upon him, during a penetrating operation, 5 km inside Iraq, attacked two bases of the Ba'thist mercenaries on the (?Gisheh) and (?Hakimeh) heights, in the border region opposite Shur-e Shirin, on the northern Mehran axis, in Ilam Province, killing or injuring more than 100 mercenaries of the (?Aruza') battalion of the [name indistinct] division of Iraq.

According to reports dispatched by Ilam Central News Unit correspondents, in continuation of the chain operations of the forces of Islam, during a 5-hour battle, between 1100 last night and 0400 this morning (local times), Guards Corps Basij personnel and the brave tribesmen of Ilam Province, surprised the enemy, disturbed the formations of the forces of blasphemy and, using mountain fighting tactics, neutralized mine fields, booby traps, cleared obstacles such as circular barbed wire, and from several quarters attacked two bases of the aggressor Saddamites on the 310 and 315 heights. Using RPG-7's, grenades and machineguns, and other light weapons, they wrecked the emplacements of the Saddamite mercenaries.

During the successful operation, which was supported by heavy artillery fire by the army and the Guards Corps, the forces of monotheism destroyed 50 slit trenches and fox holes, 7 machine-gun emplacements, 5 mortar-launchers, 4 ammunition dumps, a loader and killed or injured more than 100 Ba'thist personnel stationed at the two bases.

Central News Unit, Ilam.

IRNA: Afghan Fighters Attack NFF Balkh Office

LD301745 Tehran IRNA in English 1729 GMT 30 Nov 85

[Text] London, Nov. 30, IRNA — Late reports received from Northern Province of Balkh bordering the Soviet Union said that the mujahidin of Hezb-e Islami (Islamic Party) on October 31 struck at the office of 'National-Fatherland Front' [NFF] where three office bearers of the ruling party were killed and the local head Mulla Qurban was arrested, AGENCY AFGHAN PRESS reported.

During the attack a sizeable quantity of ammunition was also seized. It was learnt that Mulla Qurban was shot dead after the verdict of the court in the liberated area.

AAP also said that on October 29 seven Soviet-Karmal troops were reported to have been killed in clashes with mujahidin near Balkh. The troops comprised a mobile force which was searching for mujahidin hideouts.

Clandestine Reports USSR Delegation's Secret Visit

GF021723 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 2 Dec 85

[Text] A 5-man Soviet delegation led by (Safronchuk) the director-general of the Soviet Foreign Ministry [title as heard] arrived secretly in Tehran and is expected to stay in our country for a (?few) days. It is stated that as there has been complete silence on the visit of this team. It is being speculated that the subject of their talks with the foreign minister of the regime and his associates, as well as 'Ali Khamene'i, can only be a request for military assistance to the regime from its northern neighbor. The presence of one [word indsitinct] oil and gas expert in this Soviet delegation indicates that the subject of the Esfahan steel mill, power stations, and the sale of gas to the Soviet Union will be featured in the bilateral talks.